

DoN announces death of retired Vice Adm. James Stockdale

News Release
Department of Defense

Retired Navy Vice Adm. James B. Stockdale, Medal of Honor recipient, former Viet Nam prisoner of war (POW), naval aviator and test pilot, academic, and American hero died July 5 at his home in Coronado, Calif. He was 81 years old and had been battling Alzheimer's disease.

Born Dec. 23, 1923 in Abingdon, Ill., and a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy Class of 1947, he is best remembered for his extraordinary leadership as the senior naval officer held in captivity during the Vietnam War.

As commanding officer of Carrier Air Group Sixteen flying from the aircraft carrier USS Oriskany, he was shot down while leading a mission Sept. 9, 1965.

During his 7½-year imprisonment, he was tortured numerous times, forced to wear vise-like heavy leg irons for two years and spent

four years in solitary confinement. While imprisoned, he organized the prisoner culture in defiance of regulations forbidding prisoner communication and improvised a cohesive set of rules governing prisoner behavior. Codified in the acronym, BACK U.S. (Unity over Self), these rules gave prisoners a sense of hope, which many credited with giving them the strength to endure their ordeal.

Upon his release in 1973, Stockdale's extraordinary heroism became widely known and he was awarded the Medal of Honor in 1976. A portion of his citation reads: "Stockdale...deliberately inflicted a near mortal wound to his person in order to convince his captors of his willingness to give up his life rather than capitulate. He was subsequently discovered and revived by the North Vietnamese who, convinced of his indomitable spirit, abated their employment of excessive harassment and torture of all prisoners of war."

"Vice Adm. Jim Stockdale's legendary

leadership and heroic service to the cause of freedom has been an inspiration to our nation," said Secretary of the Navy Gordon England. "His courage and life stand as timeless examples of the power of faith and the strength of the human spirit. Our thoughts are with his devoted family. America and our Navy are eternally grateful and will always remember him."

Upon his retirement from naval service, the secretary of the Navy established the Vice Admiral Stockdale Award for Inspirational Leadership presented annually in both Pacific and Atlantic Fleets.

Stockdale held 26 combat awards including two Distinguished Flying Crosses, three Distinguished Service Medals, two Purple Hearts and four Silver Star Medals. He is a member of the Navy's Carrier Hall of Fame, The National Aviation Hall of Fame and an Honorary Fellow of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots. He held 11 honorary doc-



Official file photo

Vice Adm. James Stockdale

toral degrees.
"Our Navy is saddened by the loss of Vice Adm. James B. Stockdale, a giant among he-

See **STOCKDALE** Page 5

PMO Marine leaves Barstow, gives veteran new life

By Lance Cpl.
Jenna Lassandro
Combat Correspondent

Cpl. Jason Martinez completed his four-year tour in the Marine Corps last week and left MCLB Barstow. But he took his partner with him when he left.

Martinez worked on MCLB Barstow as a K-9 handler and when he moved to Colorado last week to start his new civilian life, Renzo, a military working dog from base, was by his side.

In 2002, Martinez was stationed on MCLB Barstow and met Renzo for the first time when they were

partnered together.

"I was the new handler and he was the experienced veteran because he had already had 11 handlers before me," said Martinez.

"I was really the one being trained by him. He schooled me on reading the dogs and the communication between the dog and trainer."

Renzo, a Belgian Malinois, is 11 years old and served the Marine Corps for nine years.

Renzo worked primarily as a narcotics detection dog and had a very successful career, Martinez said.

"He has supported the U.S. Border Patrol, sniffing out more than 1,000 pounds of illegal contraband and

narcotics," said Martinez.

He has also assisted the Barstow Police Department, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, National Training Center Fort Irwin and the Drug Enforcement Administration."

After working for 63 years, in dog years, Renzo has earned his retirement and he has arthritis that forced him out of the service.

When military working dogs retire they are limited to two possible futures due to their extensive training. One option is

adoption, the other is being put down.

"Military working dogs can remain aggressive and protective which would make them unfit to be a family dog. Before he could be adopted we had to prove that Renzo was safe to be a civilian dog," said Martinez.

"The first step was video taping him being aggravated and seeing how he re-

sponded. Renzo had no problem with this.

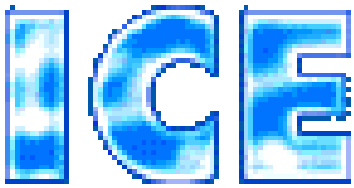
"The next step is authorization from the command, which we also got. The last thing was to send a packet to the Department of Defense Military Working Dog Center at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas, and then wait for the results.

"We only found out about three weeks ago that everything was approved. Although it was a battle, I am looking forward to giving him a good family life," said Martinez.

"He is going to be a normal, slightly spoiled dog, that is going to be able to eat table scraps for the first time."

"He is going to be a normal dog ... able to eat table scraps for the first time."

 Phone interference? -2-	DRMS A-76 results -4-	SMU Stocking the Corps -6-	Gunny Motivator of Marines -7-	Check out the Marine Corps Web site: http://www.usmc.mil or MCLB Barstow at: https://www.bam.usmc.mil/
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Comments, questions or concerns filed with the base Interactive Customer Service Evaluation system are automatically routed to the service provider and the service provider can respond directly.

To access the ICE Web site, visit the MCLB Barstow Web site at www.mclbonline.barstow.usmc.mil and click the ICE logo.

Customer Comments:

I have a cellular phone and for some reason the TLF office could not reach me to let me know my room was ready when I checked in. It said my number was disconnected when it wasn't. When we checked it out, they even put in a code for long distance being it is a long distance # and it still was saying disconnected (not sure if she had the right one, but she tried twice and it still didn't work, (April was the worker). Then she tried to call me from her cell phone and all worked fine. The second time I ran into this problem was at the CDC. My child was not feeling well and they needed to get a hold of me, and couldn't. The problem is being that I am in

the military, I move a lot, and my cellular phone sometimes is my only means of telecommunications. Especially now because I am not settled yet and am awaiting housing. I have never had a problem with this at any other base, and although a small problem, it is still a problem I wanted to bring to your attention in the event the base was the interference of the phone service. Thank you for listening.

Site Administrator's response:

I want to thank you for taking the time to use our ICE System, it benefits both our customers and our employees to know how you feel about the services you receive aboard our

base. I will be sure to forward your comments to the supervisors of the sections mentioned. I called our Communication Division about your cell phone problem and asked if there were any interferences generated by the base affecting cell phone signals. The communication officer told me that the base does not put out any such interference, although the structure of some buildings will not allow you to hook up to the network. I guess what I am saying is that the base does not appear to be the issue; it could be your phone or cell service provider. I am sorry that I could not help you with your problem. If I can assist you in any other manner feel free to contact me.

Chaplain's Corner

True meaning of being Christian

By Lt. j.g. Tavis Long
Base Chaplain

The story is told of a young lawyer who arrived in Durbin, South Africa in 1893, ready to take part in a lawsuit in Transvaal. In Durban, the 24-year-old lawyer boarded a train to begin a first class trip to Johannesburg; however, he was ordered off the train because he was not the right color. The young lawyer reluctantly exited the train and was forced to spend a cold night in the "non-European" waiting room at the Pietermaritzburg rail station.

Things did not get better for the lawyer. On one particular Sunday, the young man decided he would like to attend church. With the discrimination he had received on the train still fresh on his mind; he ventured out in hopes of finding an acceptable church in which he could worship.

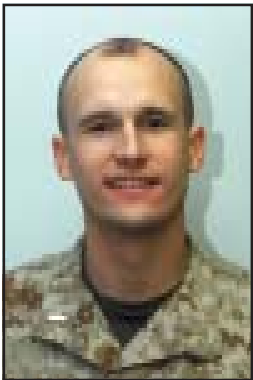
Having been born and raised in India, he knew the teachings of the Hindu religion, but after receiving an education in London, he was introduced to Christianity and wanted to explore that doctrine. He had read through the Bible and grew to love the teachings of Jesus. He loved them so much that he was seriously considering convert-

ing to Christianity.

So, the young lawyer set out to find a Christian church in which to worship. As he walked through the streets of Johannesburg he came across a church that seemed to be inviting. He climbed its large steps eager to enter the services to learn more about this Jesus of the Bible. An elderly man met the young attorney the door of the church.

To the young man's astonishment, the gentleman stood in front of the door and said, "Where do you think you are going, kaffir?" ["kaffir" is an offensive term used in South Africa for black people]. To which the lawyer replied, "I would like to worship here."

"There's no room for kaffirs in this church." The elder snarled at him, "Get out of here or I will have my assistants throw



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Just did my job ...



Photo by Curt Lambert

Master Sgt. Richard Holman, provost sergeant, sheds tears as he gives his retirement speech July 1. Holman served 24 years in the Marine Corps.

Chapel Services	Catholic Mass	Jewish Services
Protestant	St. Joseph's Catholic Church	Call 252-0148 for information on scheduled services.
Sunday 8:30 a.m.	505 E. Mt. View Barstow	
	Sundays, 7:30 a.m. Misa En Espanol	
	9:30, 11:30 a.m. English	

Barstow Log

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For information on advertising in **BARSTOW LOG**, contact Paul Kinison of Aerotech News, phone: (661) 945-5634.

News Briefs

BRAC Commission Regional Hearings

The Base Realignment and Closure Commission Regional Hearings can be viewed from the computer using the Web site: www.c-span.org/watch/cspan2_wmasp?Cat=TV&Code=CS2

A hearing is scheduled today in Los Angeles at 1 p.m.

For more regional hearings schedules visit the following: www.brac.gov/meetings.asp?p=1.

For more information, contact Mike Kierce, Special Studies Office, at 229-639-5094.

Leave Sharing Program

Anthony T. Edwards and Sondra J. Thomas, Fleet Support Division, have been affected by medical emergencies.

Anyone desiring to donate leave under the Leave Sharing Program, may do so by obtaining a leave donor application form through their division's administrative officer.

For more information, contact Monique Brown, Fleet Support Division, at 577-7774.

Rodeo Queen Competition

The Barstow Rodeo Group is looking for girls to compete for the titles of "Barstow Rodeo Stampede Queen," ages 17 to 23 years, "Barstow Rodeo Stampede Miss Teen," ages 13 to 16 years, and "Barstow Rodeo Stampede Little Miss," ages eight to 12 years.

The event is open to all females in the High Desert area.

The judging categories in this competition will be modeling, horsemanship, speech, personal interview and impromptu questions.

The deadline for applications is 10 a.m. Aug. 6.

For more information or to request an application, contact Connie Wessel, Barstow Rodeo Group, at 252-3093.

Identity Theft Scams

In the last few weeks, identity theft scams using Navy Federal Credit Union, eBay, MyPay and other official logos have been e-mailed to Marines around the

world.

Legitimate companies do not request such information, and such requests are almost always attempts at identity theft.

Treat all requests for personal information as illegal attempts to steal. Check the Federal Trade Commission Web site for a summary on how to spot and what to do about identity theft at www.consumer.gov/idtheft/.

For additional assistance, contact Capt. Aniela Syzmanski, staff judge advocate, at 577-6874.



A critical element of NSPS is performance evaluation. The Department of Defense is exploring the use of standard performance factors or competencies (i.e. teamwork, leadership, achieving results) for white-collar workforce performance assessment.

Before these factors can be used to evaluate employees, the DoD needs to ensure they are appropriate. Use of a survey to get feedback from employees about the relevance of factors to their jobs is an essential element of the process.

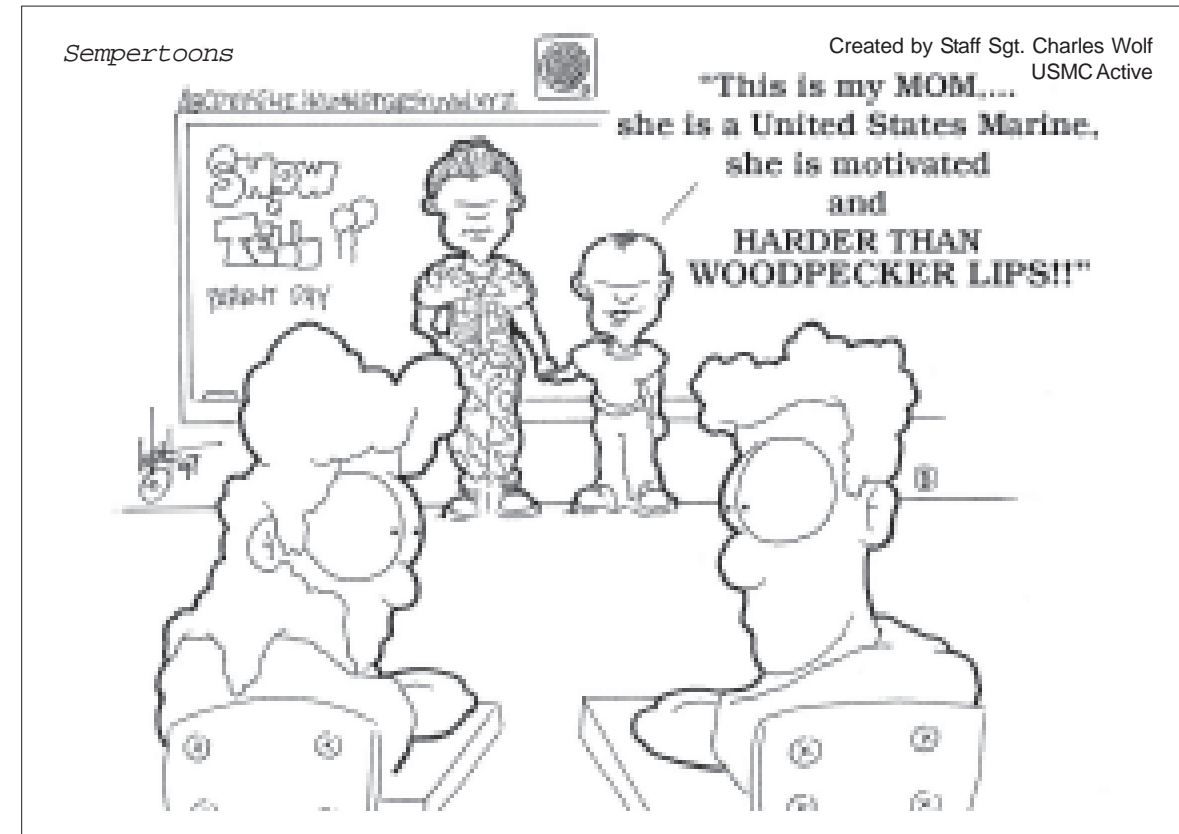
The survey at www.pfsurvey.net/nsps/ asks employees to rate the relevance of certain work activities to their jobs.

The survey runs through Wednesday. All general schedule and demonstration project employees can participate. Federal Wage System and other special groups of employees will be asked to participate in a similar effort when performance factors are developed for those occupations. Employees are encouraged to complete the survey because it provides the opportunity to be involved in the development of NSPS.

The survey is voluntary and all information provided is confidential.

CWRA Trip

The Civilian Welfare Recre-



ation Association is scheduled to take a trip to the J. Paul Getty Museum, July 30.

It is an opportunity to see one of the world's largest collections of paintings, classical antiquities, bronze and marble sculptures, photography and more.

The group will leave from the Main Gate Yermo Annex at 6:30 a.m. and return by 10:30 p.m.

The cost is \$5 and is non-refundable. It is open to everyone.

For more information, call Vince Chavez at 577-7580.

ITT

The Bowling Center will resume the sale of tickets after Information, Tickets and Tours business hours.

Tickets can be purchased Wednesday through Friday from 4:30 to 7 p.m. and on the weekend from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Please disregard the previous message regarding ITT Ticket Sales.

CCLD Opportunities

Nominations for the United States Department of Agriculture Executive Leadership Development Program are now being accepted.

The program is open to GS-11 to 13 (or equivalent). Persons wishing to attend do not need to be enrolled in the Civilian Career

Leadership Program to apply.

Information and application forms can be found at mclbonline.barstow.usmc.mil/developmental_opportunities.htm. Applications are due to the CCLD office no later than July 18.

For more information, contact Lisa Akers at 577-6658 or 218-2489.

Insurance

In accordance with California law and Base Order P5500.13, all personnel operating a motor vehicle are required to maintain automobile insurance. The insurance must be in the driver's name and must coincide with the vehicle. Access aboard MCLB Barstow will not be granted if the driver is not named in the insurance policy.

The operator, if not the owner of the vehicle, must be able to present authorization from the owner to operate the vehicle aboard MCLB. This rule applies to the request for a DoD decal, temporary pass, or visitor pass.

Physicals

The Branch Medical Clinic will be providing school and sports physicals August 1, 5, 8 and 12.

All children entering kindergarten, or who are new to the state, are required to have a

documented physical within 12 months of the start of the school year. Children participating in school sports will also be required to have a physical exam.

To accommodate this annual rush, parents are encouraged to make an appointment now for one of the dates mentioned. Parents must provide the child's immunization record and all school forms to be filled out.

Given the expected number of examinations, only children without complex medical problems will be seen on these days. Acutely ill or patients with multiple medical concerns will be asked to schedule an appointment with their primary care provider.

To schedule your child's physical with the clinic, please call 577-6491 ext 103. Point of contact for this is Lt. Cmdr. George Cullen, NC, USN.

"News Briefs" is designed to disseminate information to the MCLB Barstow community.

Submissions should be received Thursdays before noon for consideration in next week's issue. Submit news briefs via e-mail to editor@barstow.usmc.mil.

Defense Logistics Agency announces DRMS A-76 results

By Defense Logistics Agency
Public Affairs Office

FORT BELVOIR, Va. - The Defense Logistics Agency and its field activity, the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service, announced the tentative decision that the usable property warehousing functions at 68 DRMS sites in the United States, including Hawaii, will remain in-house rather than be awarded to the private sector. The tentative decision was made after a detailed public-private competition indicated it was more cost effective for the competed functions to be retained by the government than to be converted to contract performance.

Based on A-76 guidance, this tentative decision is currently undergoing an administrative appeal

process, for the next 30 to 60 days, and should be finalized by Sept. 1

The competed functions are currently being performed by approximately 300 federal and contractor employees. Implementation of the MEO's proposal will result in warehousing operations being consolidated to 18 sites. A complete listing of competed, reduced operations, and consolidated sites is available at http://www.dla.mil/public_info/drmsA76.pdf. Other DRMS services such as hazardous and scrap property disposal are not expected to be diminished or directly affected by the warehouse consolidation.

This announcement is the result of a public/private competition using the guidelines of Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 (Revised 1999), "Per-

formance of Commercial Activities" (A-76). DRMS announced these functions were undergoing an A-76 study on Oct. 9, 2001.

The A-76 competition process is the prescribed method for deciding whether to retain recurring, commercial activities within the government or contract them out to the private sector. It also is a fair and effective tool for achieving the savings and efficiencies needed to continue to provide affordable and reliable disposal support.

The Federal employees at DRMS presented a streamlined operations proposal that was determined to be the best overall value. The proposal projects a net savings of approximately \$66.8 million, representing a 57.5 percent reduction in receipt, store and issue operating costs over the five-

year period of performance.

"The competitive sourcing process determined the best structure to perform DRMS operations in support of America's military services in the most efficient manner," said Army Maj. Gen. Daniel Mongeon, director of DLA Logistics Operations. "This process streamlines operations whether the current federal workforce continues to perform the functions or a private sector company performs the functions. DLA continues to strive to provide the best value service to our customers," Mongeon said.

Army Col. Patrick E. O'Donnell, DRMS commander, said, "Today's announcement is the result of months of hard work by DRMS employees. Their dedication and commitment to providing best value services to our war

fighters has been remarkable." O'Donnell added, "I am confident our team will seamlessly implement the Most Efficient Organization structure and continue to provide our war fighters the same levels of support DRMS demands for all its customers. My immediate focus will be to assist those DRMS employees impacted by the changes, as well as working to support all DRMS employees through the transition activities of the next six months."

The DRMS mission involves disposal of excess property, including hazardous materials, received from the military services, with the highest emphasis placed on protecting the public and maintaining full environmental compliance. Property is first offered for

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U.S. Mint strikes USMC commemorative silver dollar

Compiled by
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Mint at Philadelphia celebrated National Military Appreciation Month May 25 with the ceremonial strike of a new commemorative coin, the 2005 Marine Corps 230th Anniversary Silver Dollar.

Current and former Marines cheered as Director Henrietta Holsman Fore and other dignitaries struck the coins in the Proof Room where the silver dollar will be produced. The official launch of the Marine Corps 230th Anniversary Silver Dollar will be at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., on July 20, U.S. Mint officials said.

This is the first time the United States has honored a branch of the military with a commemorative coin, according to information provided by the Mint. Surcharges from the sale of 2005 Marine Corps 230th Anniversary Silver Dollars will be paid to the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation to help construct the National

Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico.

The obverse, or “heads” side, design of the coin features the raising of the American flag at Iwo Jima from the famous photograph by Joe Rosenthal during World War II. On the reverse, “tails” side, is the Marine Corps eagle, globe and anchor emblem and motto, “Semper Fidelis” - Latin for “always faithful.”

“The coin design is simple and heroic,” Fore commented at the ceremony.

“The Iwo Jima image is the storied symbol of the Marine Corps heroism, courage, strength and versatility. It exemplifies Semper Fidelis to an appreciative nation every day around the world.”

“We are honored to be the first military service to receive a commemorative coin issued by the United States Mint. And we are particularly pleased that proceeds from this coin will help build the Marine Corps National Museum in Quantico,” said Marine Corps



Assistant Commandant Gen. William L. Nyland.

“I can think of no better way to honor our Marine men and women than to capture the proud history and heritage of the Marine Corps in a museum that will forever educate visitors from around the world about the role the Marines have played throughout world history, and will continue to play in the future.”

Congress authorizes two official commemorative coins annually, and only the United States Mint may produce them. The Marine Corps 230th Anniversary Silver Dollar is the second and final commemorative coin that the United States Mint will produce in 2005. The Chief Justice John Marshall Commemorative Silver Dollar was launched earlier this year.

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roles and a patriarch of ethical leadership,” said Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark.

“Adm. Stockdale challenged the human limits of moral courage, physical endurance and intellectual bravery, emerging victorious as a legendary beacon for all to follow. Our thoughts and prayers are with Sybil, his devoted partner in love and life, and the rest of the Stockdale family.” Stockdale will be honored at a memorial service on board the USS Ronald Reagan in his hometown of Coronado, Calif. The service will take place Saturday. He will be buried with full honors at the U.S. Naval Academy Saturday, July 23. He is survived by his beloved wife Sybil of Coronado, Calif., and his four sons: James of Beaver, Pa.; Sidney of Albuquerque, N.M.; Stanford of Denver, Colo.; Taylor of Claremont, Calif.; and eight grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions should be made to:

U.S. Naval Academy Foundation, 291 Wood Rd., Beach Hall, Annapolis, Md., 21402, telephone: (410) 295-4116.

Monmouth College Fund, 700 E. Broadway, Monmouth, Ill., 61462, telephone: (309) 457-2316/17

Stockdale’s biography and additional photos are located on the following Web site www.admiralstockdale.com.



Supplies to the Corps

CAMP TAQADDUM- Stocking everything from spare tires and Marine Armor Kits for humvees to camouflage utility uniforms and boots, the Marines of the Supply Management Unit of Combat Logistics Regiment 25, 2d Force Service Support Group, liken themselves to one of the largest chain of retail stores.

By Cpl. C.J. Yard
2nd Force Service Support Group

Around the Corps

“We’re like a big Wal-Mart,” said Master Sgt. Brian K. Pennington, staff noncommissioned officer in charge of general accounts at the SMU. “It’s like Wal-Mart because you see what’s on the shelves and you can get it. That’s what it is like here. If we have it, we can get it to the units, but sometimes we have to special order some things.”

Despite the fact that more than half the Marines are not supply administration Marines, the SMU continues to be number one in the Marine Corps with requisition objective fill rates at 94 percent, according to



Photo by Cpl. C.J. Yard

Cpl. Thomas A. Douglas, a Columbus, Ohio, native and warehouse chief for the Initial Issues Provision, places a Radio Frequency Identification tag on a tri-wall before it is sent to the unit who ordered the gear. The IIP is part of the Supply Management Unit of Combat Logistics Regiment 25, 2d Force Service Support Group (Forward). The SMU has a 94 percent requisition fill rate.

Pennington, a Harman, W.Va., native.

“What that means is we can fill 94 percent of orders that come through on any given day,” said Chief Warrant Officer Tikisha Smiley, officer in charge of general accounts. “Most of these Marines were together on [Camp Lejeune, N.C.] and are very good at what they do. We haven’t done it yet, but we’re getting close to beating our own numbers while we were at Lejeune.”

After reducing the stock on the storage lots by nearly \$65 million worth of gear, the Marines have been able to fill requisitions faster. In order to keep track of gear on the storage lots the Marines had to do some reorganizing, said Smiley. “There was a lot of gear in the way and it is just easier to identify gear if it is less cluttered.”

Reducing the amount of gear on the storage lots was also crucial to quality control of the gear. “Because of the climate the gear was deteriorating,” said the Mobile, Ala., native, Smiley.

“We moved it back to Kuwait where they have a better climate-controlled area to store the gear.”

Not only are the Marines of the SMU filling gear requests nearly as fast as they were while stationed at Camp Lejeune, but they are also doing it cost-effectively.

“When I order gear I also have to figure out if it is cheaper for us to ship the gear [by ship] or fly it over,” said Lance Cpl. Kevin J. Burge, general accounts operations clerk and Raleigh, N.C., native.

“Basically, I get a budget of whatever it takes to accomplish the mission, but we’re always trying to save as much money as possible.”

Though flying the gear over is faster than sending it by “slow boat,” which takes nearly 45 days, sometimes it could cost up to \$16,000 to fly a piece of gear, said Smiley.

“45 days is a vast improvement from the start of the war,” said Burge. “It used to take 75 to 85 days to get from the U.S. to our warehouses here.”

Having a daily budget of nearly \$300,000, Burge is not only responsible for buying the gear, but also responsible for tracking it from the United States until it gets to the unit.

However, one of the difficulties the Marines of the SMU face is the time difference.

“Our job requires us to make a lot of phone calls,” said Cpl. Jaime Salazar, documents due in status file noncommissioned officer in charge.

“We have to have a night shift and that’s pretty much their job. To make calls and find out why items are backordered, not shipped or cancelled.”

Getting the gear in country is sometimes a difficult task for the Marines of the SMU, therefore they also look at past months usage to determine how much stock to keep on hand, predict what is needed and estimate the shipping time.

“Lance Corporal Burge generates the buys with the programs and parameters that are in place,” said Cpl. Michael Hodina, noncommissioned officer in charge of special projects. “I review and validate the transactions which are then submitted. To put it more simply I design the processes of buys, stocking levels, forecasting demand and database management. Lance Corporal Burge and others run those processes and make them work on a daily basis.” The Marines rely on small-unit leadership to ensure all orders are filled and the SMU runs smoothly.

“We put a lot of emphasis on NCO leadership here,” said Smiley.

“We empower our NCOs here to make the day-to-day decisions. Our sections are run by the NCOs, and they are doing an outstanding job.”

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reutilization within the Department of Defense, transfer to other federal agencies, or donation to state and local governments and other qualified organizations. Addition-

ally, DRMS manages the DOD surplus property sales program.

Excess property that is not reutilized, transferred or donated may be sold to the public as surplus. DRMS has a worldwide presence within DOD, with disposal spe-

cialists in 15 foreign countries, the U.S. Territory of Guam and 39 states. DRMS’ headquarters is located Battle Creek, Mich.

DLA provides supply support, and technical and logistics services to the military

services and to several civilian agencies. Headquartered at Fort Belvoir, Va., DLA is the one source for nearly every consumable item, whether for combat readiness, emergency preparedness or day-to-day operations.

Motivated

Gunny keeps MCLB Marines charging hard



Photo by Cpl. Ashley Warden

Gunnery Sgt. Ivan Collazo-Sanchez, staff noncommissioned officer in charge of the Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard, exercises Freedom in the round pen. Collazo-Sanchez hopes that with constant human interaction, Freedom, who was abused before he was given to the color guard, will learn that people are not going to hurt him.

By Cpl. Ashley Warden
Combat Correspondent

Motivation, a tool to keep morale high and Marines ready to face anything, can be seen here at MCLB Barstow in the faces of many Marines. One Marine in particular, can be heard breaking the early morning silence with a, "Good morning Marines," or seen running alongside Marines struggling to keep in formation during physical training runs.

Gunnery Sgt. Ivan Collazo-Sanchez, an infantry rifleman currently serving as the staff noncommissioned officer in charge of the Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard, was born Feb. 5, 1971 in San German, Puerto Rico.

The first in his family to join the armed services, Collazo-Sanchez enlisted May 30, 1990.

"At the age of thirteen going through middle school, I used to see these kids that belonged to the Civil Air Patrol, and with not much in life going for me I decided to join," he said. "Every year we went to camp at Roosevelt Roads Naval Station in Ceiba, Puerto Rico. During camp, we would march through the station and I used to see the way the Marines manned the main gate, conducted their drills and did their motivational runs, they looked pretty tough to me and I soon became interested."

Through the civil air patrol, Collazo-Sanchez found out that military life came natural to him and decided to join the Marine Corps because he knew he could handle being a member of one of the most elite fighting forces in the world.

"Another reason I decided on the Marine Corps was because the Marines were a very highly respected force, and by being a part of it, it would give me the chance to excel and be a part of something great," he said.

To find out as much as he could about the Corps, Collazo-Sanchez would send letters to recruiters so they could send him information to see what military job he was interested in.

"Nothing caught my attention other than being an infantryman because that is something that I was born to do," said Collazo-Sanchez. "There is nothing better than being in the dirt, being cold and working hard."

It wasn't until 12th grade that he could call the recruiters with the intent to enlist. After getting in contact with the recruiter, they arranged for him to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test. He passed and became a member of the Delayed Entry Program, where he stayed for a year before flying to Marine Corps recruit training at Parris Island, S.C. While in the DEP, he found the motivation needed to get good grades before graduation.

"I think that being in the DEP encouraged me to get better grades because I wanted to have better chances and be more competitive for what I wanted to do when I graduated," he said. "Because I knew that after graduating from high school, all I had to do is raise my hand one more time and I was in (the Marine Corps)."

After boot camp, he attended the School of Infantry to become an infantryman, the only primary military occupational specialty he has had since being in the Corps.

"I like everything about the infantry," he said. "What I've always liked the most is the unity between you and your fellow Marines. We are there for each other all the time no matter what. You are constantly giving each other moral support in the infantry by encouraging each other to always give your best because you want your unit to be the best."

Through his many years in the infantry, and the hardships experience as a grunt, Collazo-Sanchez was influenced early in his career to become the Marine he is now. As a private first class, 11 days after graduating from SOI, Collazo-Sanchez was deployed to Saudi Arabia in support of Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield. There he joined with his first unit, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines. The unit already had the alpha rosters,

so when more Marines joined the unit at the last minute, the admin section kept the Service Record Books, and they didn't seem in a hurry to send the upgraded rosters to the unit.

"I went through a lot of hard times there, because I barely spoke English at that time," he said. But one person helped Collazo-Sanchez during hard times.

"His name was Cpl. Barnett," he said. "He was the type of NCO that you didn't want to face when you were wrong because he'd correct you on the spot, but at the same time he was all about his troops."

Before going on leave, about 10 days after returning from Saudi Arabia, Collazo-Sanchez's unit handed out the very first Kuwait Liberation Medals (Saudi Arabia) that had been awarded. On top of each box was the name of the recipient, which was taken from the rosters.

"Can you believe I was the only one that was left without getting the medal," he said. During the formation, Cpl. Barnett leaned forward to look over his squad to ensure everyone got the medal and noticed Collazo-Sanchez standing at parade rest looking around at everyone who had received the medal. Once all the medals were passed and the platoon sergeant left, Barnett walked up to Collazo-Sanchez and asked him if he had received his medal. The answer was no, and seeing that he was disappointed Barnett gave his medal to Collazo-Sanchez.

"I said, 'No corporal this is your medal, it has your name on it,'" Collazo-Sanchez remembered. "He said, 'you know what, you earned it, you did a great job out there.' That was the type of person he was, always looking out for his troops."

This was one of the key things that influenced the way Collazo-Sanchez is as a Marine now. Always looking out for his troops, he will be the first one to motivate Marines struggling on a run or encourage someone who is about to give up on themselves.

"It's my style," he said. "It is our duty as Marines to go out there and say something that is going to give that Marine the will or the strength to go that extra mile when you see a Marine falling behind."

"I think he is an awesome leader," said Cpl. Steven Isha, stableman who has been working with Collazo-Sanchez since March. "He'll lead by example by going out there and showing us how to do things. There are so many different things he has shown me since I've been here that I can't just pick out one."

Collazo-Sanchez has stayed in the Corps so long because he loves what he does.

"Where else do you have the chance to meet new Marines, try different leadership styles in order to motivate them and be able to help somebody else," he explained. "This is the only place where you can make a difference. There is not a day that goes by that I do not enjoy coming to work. Especially when you have an excellent crew like the one I have right now."

After the Corps, Collazo-Sanchez plans on retiring, getting a job on base that directly or indirectly supports the military.

"It is part of me to give back what was given to me while in the service," he said. "But who knows what will happen between now and 10 years or 15 years."

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you down the steps.”

The young lawyer had experienced the bigotry and racism in the secular world, but now here it was hitting him in the face on the front steps of a Christian church! It was at that point that he vowed he would never convert to Christianity if it meant he had to join a church.

That young lawyer practiced law in South Africa for a few more years, but eventually he returned to his home in India. He did many great things in India and eventually became known as the “father of his nation.” That young lawyer was none other than Mahatmas Ghandi. Years later when asked by the missionary E. Stanley Jones, why he quoted so much scripture, even advocated much of the teachings of Jesus but rejected becoming Christ’s follower, Ghandi relayed his story from South Africa and replied, “Oh, I don’t reject your Christ. I

love your Christ. It is just that so many of you Christians are unlike your Christ.”

Did you know that the term Christian literally means “Christ-like”? Often we use that title flip-pantly to describe a religion or a church or a philosophy. But what does it really mean to be a Christian? The Bible has some very strong words for those who claim to be a Christian but do not act like it. I John 2:4 says, “He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.”

Those are some very pointed words. To be called a liar is no honor. Yet, that is what the Bible calls people who say one thing but act differently. If someone who claims to be a Christian and does not keep His commandments he is nothing but a liar! But, what are these commandments that we should keep? Once again consider I John 3:23: “And this is the com-

mandment, that we should believe on the name of His son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as He gave us commandment.”

The commandment is two-fold: believe in Jesus Christ and then love your neighbor. The South African church Ghandi visited may have done the first, but they failed at the latter. What about you? Are you keeping His commandment? Have you trusted Jesus as your Lord and Savior. If you have, it does not stop there. To be a true Christian you must then love your fellowman.

The task is not complete if you only love your fellowman with no relationship with Jesus Christ; nor is it complete if you have the relationship but do not love your neighbor. If we are not careful and we only do one without the other, than we too may turn someone away from having the greatest experience known to man—a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Nich R. Babb

U.S. Rep. Howard “Buck” McKeon, congressman, 25th District, California, visited MCLB Barstow July 7 for briefings and meetings with base leadership. The congressman was interested in recent developments, construction, the effect of the Global War on Terrorism on the work force and productivity and other outstanding issues facing the base.



At Your MCX

Friday through Monday the Exchange is having a Cooking Sale.

Take a look inside for the white balloons on selected kitchen appliances and save 10 percent on already low priced items.

The Super Seven Day Store is open Mondays - Fridays from 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 256-8974 for more information.

Black Thursday

Max Push-Ups today at 4 p.m. in the Semper Fit Gym. Get a shot at the glory; outlast the competitors, earn the right to brag.

Black Thursday Winners also receive a warm up fitness suit. Open to all authorized gym patrons.

Call 577-6817 for more information.



Swimming Pool

Get out of the heat this summer and visit the Family or Oasis Club Swimming Pools. Hours of operation for recreational swimming at the Oasis Club & Family Pools are Tuesdays through Fridays from 1 to 7 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Lap Swimming is always free during designated hours, only at the Family Pool: Tuesdays through Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information about the pools, call 577-6817.

Tees & Trees Golf Course

It's always a great day for golf, and Tees & Trees is open 7-days-a-week for your convenience. This beautifully manicured 9-hole course is available for use by all active duty, retired military and their families and DOD employees aboard MCLB.

Tees & Trees has monthly specials to make this great American pass time even more affordable. July 22 is two for one Friday. Bring a friend and enjoy two for one green fees. Every Wednes-

day in July get \$2 off a Large Range Basket. Swing by Tees & Trees Golf Course today and get the game started.

Call 577-6431 for more information about Tees & Trees Specials and more.

What's for Dinner?

Thursdays are great for getting out of the house to enjoy dinner at one of the wonderful establishments aboard MCLB.

Every Thursday night is "BBQ Your Own Ribs Night" at the Oasis Club. Choose from a half slab of pork or beef, and cook them to perfection. This is a deal that cannot be beat: \$8 for members and junior enlisted, and \$11.50 for nonmembers.

Call 577-6432 or 577-6418 for more information.

Thursdays are a special treat with a theme menu at the Family Restaurant!

Tonight, it's "Good Ol' Southern Food" with baked or fried chicken, collard greens, mashed potatoes with gravy, a tossed green salad, dessert and any fountain drink of your choice.

Adults are only \$6 and children ages 5-11 \$4. Children under 5 years of age dine free.

Call 577-6428 for more information.

Whether it's ribs with your comrades, or a fabulous meal with the Family, Food and Hospitality has what you're looking for.



2004 YAMAHA: TTR 225, Big Gun
race series exhaust, \$3000,
approx.10-hours use. Contact SSgt
Woods cell 909 921-1789.

MISCELLANEOUS: Dining room
set, four chairs and table, \$200
OBO. Call 895-7370.

Thank you MCLB, Col. Sass, Mr.
Baker, friends and family. Thank you
for the prayers, cards, donations
and well wishes during the time of
my heart attack and the passing of
my father. I want to express my
gratitude to all of you and let you
know how proud I am to be part of
this work force. I can never repay
what MCLB and the people who
work here have done for me. God
bless you all from a very grateful and
humble employee.... Thomas
Gutierrez

